

## **Assembly Bill No. 1127**

### **CHAPTER 216**

An act to add Section 16521.5 to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to foster youth.

[Approved by Governor July 20, 1996. Filed with  
Secretary of State July 22, 1996.]

#### **LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST**

AB 1127, Friedman. Foster youth.

Existing law imposes various obligations upon foster care providers.

This bill would require foster care providers of adolescents in long-term foster care to ensure that these children receive age-appropriate pregnancy prevention information.

This bill would make a foster care provider, or when the provider objects, the county case manager, responsible for ensuring that these individuals receive referrals to health services when a foster child reaches the age of 18 or is emancipated, whichever occurs first.

The bill would also require the State Department of Social Services, in consultation with the State Department of Health Services, to convene a working group, to include specific representatives, for the purposes of developing a specified prevention plan.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

**SECTION 1.** Section 16521.5 is added to the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

16521.5. (a) A foster care provider, in consultation with the county case manager, shall be responsible for ensuring that adolescents who remain in long-term foster care, as defined by the department, receive age-appropriate pregnancy prevention information to the extent state and county resources are provided.

(b) A foster care provider, in consultation with the county case manager, shall be responsible for ensuring that a foster youth is provided with appropriate referrals to health services when the foster youth either reaches the age of 18 or is emancipated, and to the extent county and state resources are provided.

(c) As part of the home study process, the prospective foster care provider shall notify the county if he or she objects to participating in adolescent pregnancy prevention training or the dissemination of information pursuant to subdivisions (a) and (b). A licensed foster care provider shall notify the county if he or she objects to

participation. If the provider objects, the county case manager shall assume this responsibility.

(d) Subdivisions (a), (b), and (c) shall not take effect until the department, in consultation with the work group, develops guidelines that describe the duties and responsibilities of foster care providers and county case managers in delivering pregnancy prevention services and information.

(e) (1) The department, in consultation with the State Department of Health Services, shall convene a working group for the purpose of developing a pregnancy prevention plan that will effectively address the needs of adolescent male and female foster youth. The work group shall meet not more than three times and thereafter shall provide consultation to the department upon request.

(2) The working group shall include representatives from the California Youth Connection, the Foster Parent's Association, group home provider associations, the County Welfare Director's Association, providers of teen pregnancy prevention programs, a foster care case worker, an expert in pregnancy prevention curricula, a representative of the Independent Living Program, and an adolescent health professional.

(f) The plan required pursuant to subdivision (e) shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following:

(1) Effective strategies and programs for pre-teen and older teen foster youth.

(2) The role of foster care and group home care providers.

(3) The role of the assigned case management worker.

(4) How to involve foster youth peers.

(5) Selecting and providing appropriate materials to educate foster youth in family life education.

(6) The training of foster care and group home care providers and, when necessary, county case managers in adolescent pregnancy prevention.

(g) Counties currently mandating foster care provider training shall be encouraged to include the pregnancy prevention curricula guidelines and educational materials that may be developed by the work group pursuant to subdivision (f).

(h) The department shall adopt regulations to implement this section.

